

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 02897 221057Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 TRSE-00 EB-08 /097 W
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R 221048Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3378
INFO AMEMBASSY SUVA
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, GN, XP, EAID
SUBJECT: TUVALU INDEPENDENCE PROSPECTS

REF: SUVA 279

1. EMBOFF SPOKE WITH FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
OFFICIAL (HITCHCOCK) RESPONSIBLE FOR TUVALU AFFAIRS TO
DISCUSS RESULTS OF FEBRUARY 13-17 CONSTITUTIONAL CONFER-
ENCE. AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON ALL CONSTITUTIONAL PRO-
VISIONS AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS.

2. TUVALU WILL RETAIN THE QUEEN AS HEAD OF STATE, WITH
LOCALLY-APPOINTED CITIZEN AS GOVERNOR GENERAL.

3. HMG WILL NOT UNDERWRITE A RESERVE FUND; RATHER, IT
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WILL CREATE A SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR CAPITAL PRO-
JECTS (WITH UNSPECIFIED DRAWDOWN PERIOD) OF 2.5 MILLION
POUNDS STERLING (AT CURRENT RATE OF EXCHANGE). IN
ADDITION, HMG HAS PROMISED CAPITAL AID PROJECTS (TO MEET
"NORMAL INDEPENDENCE AID CRITERIA") OF 2.62 MILLION
POUNDS STERLING THROUGH 1980, AND BUDGETARY AID OF 0.9
MILLION POUNDS STERLING THROUGH 1980. A TECHNICAL COOP-

ERATION AGREEMENT OF AN UNSPECIFIED AMOUNT IS EXPECTED
TO INVOLVE 250,000 - 300,000 POUNDS STERLING PER YEAR.

4. WHILE THERE HAS BEEN NO COMMITMENT AS TO BUDGETARY
AID AFTER 1980, THERE HAS BEEN AN IMPLICIT PROMISE TO
RENEGOTIATE THE PACKAGE BASED ON TUVALU'S ECONOMIC
EXPERIENCE DURING THE PERIOD 1976 - 1980.

5. THE UK HAS NO PRIVATE FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN TUVALU.

6. HMG UNDERSTANDS THAT TUVALU WILL UPGRADE ITS SUVA
OFFICE TO A DIPLOMATIC POST AND THAT NO OTHER DIPLOMATIC
POSTS WILL BE OPENED. FCO HAS ON FINANCIAL GROUNDS DIS-
COURAGED TUVALU FROM SEEKING UN MEMBERSHIP, POINTING OUT
THAT BY JOINING ONE OR MORE UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES,
TUVALU COULD QUALIFY FOR UNDP ASSISTANCE.

STREATOR

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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